

## **REMARKS**

Initially, applicant thanks Examiner Boehler for indicating on page 2 of the Office Action that the application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters that claims 7, 8, 17 and 18 are directed to an invention non-elected with traverse. Applicant has canceled withdrawn claims 7, 8, 17 and 18 by the present amendment to expressly place the application in condition for allowance. Claim 19 was previously canceled.

Upon entry of the present Amendment-C, the claims in the application are claims 1-6, 9-16 and 20, of which claims 1 and 11 are independent.

The above-identified Office Action has been reviewed, and the Examiner's comments carefully weighed. In view thereof, the present Amendment-C is submitted. It is contended that by the present amendment, all bases of objections set forth in the Office Action have been traversed and overcome. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections is respectfully requested.

### **Amendments Presented**

As stated above, applicant has canceled withdrawn claims 7, 8, 17 and 18 by the present amendment.

Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments are fully supported by the original disclosure because the present amendment includes only cancellation of withdrawn claims.

### **Application Not Believed to be Under Accelerated Examination**

Applicant notes that on page 2 of the Office Action, under item 1, the Examiner has stated that the application has been granted special status under the accelerated examination program. In the interest of clarifying the record, applicant respectfully suggests that based on applicant's understanding, this statement is incorrect. The present application was filed on March

29, 2004 as a regular utility application, and this date is approximately three years prior to the present date. Applicant believes that no difficulty or damage was caused by this misunderstanding.

**Conclusion**

The application is now believed to be in condition for allowance and a notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter is introduced by the present amendment.

If the Examiner has any concerns regarding the application, applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner telephone applicant's undersigned representative to resolve such concerns and expedite prosecution of the application.

Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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March 27, 2007

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**CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on March 27, 2007.



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